

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	Confirmation No. 5171
Gary Karlin Michelson	)	
Serial No.: 09/605,001	)	Group Art Unit: 3772
Filed: June 27, 2000	)	Examiner: Michael A. Brown
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD OF	)	
INSERTING SPINAL IMPLANTS	)	

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final Action or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the requisite fee of \$180.00 as specified by Section 1.17(p) is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-3726.

Copies of the listed non-U.S. patent documents are enclosed herewith. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The present application is a continuation of Application No. 08/396,414, now U.S. Patent No. 6,080,155. In addition, Application No. 11/410,609, Publication No. 2006/0200138; Application No. 11/410,612, now U.S. Patent No. 7,914,530; Application No. 11/410,634, now U.S. Patent No. 7,722,619; Application No. 11/269,328, now U.S. Patent No. 7,569,054; Application No. 10/883,382, now U.S. Patent No. 7,686,805; Application No. 09/991,579, now U.S. Patent No. 6,770,074; Application No. 09/497,590, now U.S. Patent No. 7,341,722; Application No. 08/482,162, now U.S.

Patent No. 6,270,498; and Application No. 08/482,215, now U.S. Patent No. 5,797,909; all claim priority to U.S. Patent No. 6,080,155.

Applicant also brings to the attention of the Examiner the file history (the Office Actions and responses) of each of the above-referenced patents and application. While the individual Office Actions and responses are not attached hereto, they are available in each of the file wrappers in the Patent Office, through PAIR, or will be provided by Applicant at the Examiner's request.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

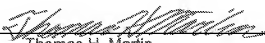
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-3726.

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP

Date: November 8, 2011

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